

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 24 are in this application and are presented for consideration. Claims 1, 13 and 19 have been amended, and new claims 21 - 24 have been added.

The claims have also been amended to improve the style of this application, to address the Examiner's objections, and in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter.

Claim 13 has been objected to because the phrase "art includes" is grammatically awkward. Applicant has reviewed claim 13 from the previous Amendment, and does not find the phrase "art includes". Applicant has made other changes to grammatically improve claim 13.

Claim 1 has been amended to further set forth that a lower humidity is set in the lipophilic state than in the hydrophilic state. This feature is found in claim 5 which has been indicated to be allowed. Claim 1 is presently rejected as being obvious over D'Heureuse in view of Nakayama. Applicant does not find this added feature to claim 1 to be present in these references, and therefore it is Applicant's position that amended claim 1 defines over these references. Claim 1 has also been rejected as being obvious over D'Heureuse in view of Nakayama '091. Applicant does not find the added feature of claim 1 to be present in these references. Therefore it is Applicant's position that claim 1 defines over these references.

Claim 19 has been amended to further set forth a humidifying unit providing a humidity at said form which is lower in the lipophilic state and higher in the hydrophilic state. Applicant

notes that this structure is similar to the structure in claim 5 which has been allowed. Applicant has reviewed the references used to reject claim 19, and finds no teaching nor suggestion of such a humidifying unit. It is Applicant's position therefore that claim 19 defines over the prior art.

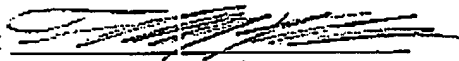
New independent claims 21, 22 and 23 have been added. These claims are very similar to original independent claims 1, 5 and 19 respectively. New independent claims 21, 22 and 23 also include features similar to claim 3. The Office Action indicates that claim 3 includes features which define over the prior art. It is Applicant's position therefore that new claims 21, 22 and 23 now also define over the prior art, and should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 19 have also been amended to remove the feature of the form including an IR absorption component. Applicant feels that this is not a new issue since the rejections have only used the Nakayama references for this feature. Removal of this feature therefore removes the need for the Nakayama references. The remaining features in these claims still defines over the D'Heureuse reference, and therefore the claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicant again thanks the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which would further favorable prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative by telephone to discuss possible changes.

At this time Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, and based on the above amendments and remarks, respectfully solicits allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted
For Applicant,

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Enclosed: Credit Card Payment Form

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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.